

Dear Legislators,

I am a fourth generation Oregonian and rental property owner. As a public employee, I cannot depend on my tier 3 PERS retirement and have chosen to invest in rental properties to hedge my long term security. I am not a wealthy person. Like most tenants, I live paycheck to paycheck. I have mortgages on my rental properties and only break even with rents.

Before this crisis, I noticed a disturbing trend in Oregon politics. Oregon's politicians seem to be waging war on rental property owners. Unlike the narrative coming out of Portland and Salem, I am not a greedy landlord. My properties aren't cash cows owned free and clear. I rent my properties below market value and haven't instituted a rent increase in over a decade.

In this time of emergency, I appreciate you protecting Oregonians. But, shouldn't you be protecting us all equally? Not one at the expense of the other? You've essentially invited tenants to stop paying rent. What comes of those same tenants when the landlord cant pay the mortgage? Will you stop the Bank from foreclosing? Will you require banks to stop collecting mortgages on properties affected by rent stoppages?

Why am I being punished for owning rental property?

Help us all,

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